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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT

DPIC Military Information from Magdeburg

EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

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REMARKS [REDACTED]

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1. On 24 October 1951, troops started moving into the Herrenkrug Kaserne and the Anger Kaserne on Dreitscheidstrasse, Magdeburg (M 53/Y 60). All of the returning troops were motorized, and the materiel observed with them included: 6 x 76.2-mm artillery pieces; 5 JSU-122 SP guns, about 10 JS-1 tanks, 10 JS-2 tanks, about 40 four-wheel armored reconnaissance cars and 20 rocket launchers. The two barracks installations were occupied to capacity by a total of about 3,500 troops on 8 November. The troops were engaged in maintenance work. A unit of 4 officers and 40 men was seen leaving the installation toward the AA gun emplacement on the railroad embankment.

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2. Until 23 October, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Jerichowerstrasse quartered about 600 troops. Gate guards wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The units from the installation returned on 24 October, and between 1,500 and 2,000 troops were quartered there by 12 November. Numerous trucks were seen in the garages and on the barracks yard, but no training was observed. The AA guns previously emplaced east of the barracks installation had been withdrawn, but the site of the emplacements was still guarded by sentries who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Twelve earth shelters were noticed there.

Most of the trucks had a white triangle as tactical marking.

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3. Up to 13 November, the Seeckt Kaserne and the Nachrichten Kaserne on Turmschanzenstrasse were occupied by about 100 soldiers. Gate guards wore red-bordered black epaulets. Pontoons and amphibious vehicles were seen in the billeting

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areas. Soldiers observed in the Seeckt Kaserne were engaged in maintenance work, motor vehicle engineering and athletic activities in groups of about 10 men each. Numerous trucks, but no training activity was seen.

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4. On 14 November, the Zuckerbusch Kaserne on Zuckerbuschstrasse quartered about 500 troops. Gate guards wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. Groups of 12 soldiers each received map instruction and training in firing with carbines in the barracks yard. No vehicular traffic was observed.

5. Up to 17 November, the Flak Kaserne at Magdeburg-Cracau was heavily occupied by about 4,000 troops. An undetermined number of motor vehicles, 10 x 76.2-mm AA guns and about 15 rocket launchers were seen in the garages of the installation.

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6. The restricted residential quarter on Lennestrasse contained apartments of Soviet administrative officials with their families. The area is bounded by Werner Fritze Strasse on the south, Humboldtstrasse on the east, Lennestrasse on the north and Kleewitzstrasse on the west. The restricted residential quarter on Klausenerstrasse also contained apartments of administrative officials with their families. A shipment of Russian women and children was seen departing on 26 October. [redacted] unmarried women and married women without children would be [redacted] uniforms. (3)

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7. On 4 November, the Hindenburg Kaserne quartered about 2,000 troops. Gate guards wore black epaulets with signal insignia. The troops were furnishing the quarters. Eighty women wearing uniforms with signal insignia were seen in the billeting area on 2 November. Trucks [redacted] left the installation, occupied by officers with wreaths.

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8. On 6 November, the Seeckt Kaserne and the Nachrichten Kaserne on Turmschanzenstrasse quartered about 1,000 troops, most of whom were young and appeared to be untrained. Unarmed troops were seen drilling. A column of 32 vehicles, apparently carrying a complete pontoon bridge, was seen in the billeting area.

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9. On 8 November, the Zuckerbusch Kaserne on Zuckerbuschstrasse, was occupied by about 400 troops. The gate guards wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. Groups of 12 to 15 men were seen receiving infantry training in the billeting area. No vehicular traffic was noticed.

10. On 12 November, the Encke Kaserne on Beimstrasse quartered 200 to 300 troops. Gate guards wore black epaulets. The personnel in the installation were exchanged constantly. [redacted] officer training courses were conducted there. A number of underground telephone wires converged at the installation. [redacted] the Encke Kaserne housed a military headquarters. No training activity was observed. [redacted]

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11. On 16 November, the Flak Kaserne in Cracau was occupied by about 4,000 troops. Soldiers were engaged in maintenance work and the cleaning of vehicles. The civilian residents of the five or six apartment houses, standing in a row opposite the barracks installation, were evicted, because these buildings were to be made part of the billeting area. [redacted]

12. On 16 November, the Herrenkrug Kaserne and the Anger Kaserne on Breitscheidstrasse quartered a total of about 3,000 troops. The former hospital was occupied and seemed to be used as a military hospital. Officers observed at the installations were tank, artillery, intendance and medical insignia. EM observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia. About 60 officers wearing tank and artillery insignia and about 30 air force officers were seen leaving by streetcar between 3 and 4 p.m. on 16 November. About 50 nurses were seen in the yard of the hospital. An undetermined number of tanks were noticed at the Herrenkrug Kaserne on 3 November.

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13. On 15 November, the Seeckt Kaserne on Turmschanzenstrasse quartered an engineer unit of about 1,500 troops. About 60 trucks loaded with pontoons and motorboats were parked in the barracks yard.

14. On 16 November, the Flak Kaserne was occupied by about 4,000 troops. Approximately 160 trucks, including some with mortars and rocket launchers, were seen in the billeting area. The houses between the barracks installation and Zipkeleberweg were requisitioned in order to be included in the military billeting area. The street along the east side of the installation has been placed off limits. Troops observed in the billeting area wore exclusively red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. Numerous officers, including some colonels, were seen walking between the installation and the restricted area on Kaelberweide.

15. On 14 November, the Herrenkrug Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 1,200 troops. Gate guards wore red-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered crimson epaulets. Two T-34/85 tanks and 2 SP guns on JS chassis were in the barracks yard, while 4 T-34/85 tanks were being cleaned by about 10 soldiers at the garages.

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Crews of 6 to 8 ~~man~~ each, who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets, practiced the limbering and unlimbering of six mortars coupled to trucks [redacted]

[redacted] Two tanks were being used for driving practice on Cracauer Anger.

16. On 12 November, the Anger Kaserne was occupied beyond capacity by about 1,500 troops. About half of the troops observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, about 100 soldiers wore black-bordered black epaulets, and the rest wore black-bordered crimson epaulets with the guards ~~patch~~. Six 76.2-mm artillery pieces were in the yard, and soldiers drilled with two x 57-mm AT guns. Engineer troops disassembled a reviewing stand which had been erected for the ceremony of 7 November. [redacted] each carrying 18 soldiers and towing two x 76-mm guns left the installation for Cracauer Anger. About 60 infantrymen received training in the foxholes and communication trenches on the Elbe River meadows. [redacted]

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17. On 9 November, three buildings of the Hindenburg Kaserne were occupied to capacity by: about 250 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia; about 300 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets; and about 250 troops who wore black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. About 30 soldiers were seen practicing with two 120-mm mortars, while about 60 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets practiced stringing telephone wires on the poles standing on the Elbe River meadows. Student drivers trained on trucks [redacted]

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Comments. The report indicates that the units from the Magdeburg military post returned to their quarters in late October and early November 1951. [redacted]

[redacted] the barracks installations in Magdeburg are occupied as follows:

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Herrenkrug Kaserne and Anger Kaserne. One regiment of the 44th (?) Army Arty Brig of the Third Shock Army, and the 63d Gds Mecz Regt, the 153d Gds Hvy Tank SP Regt or the 26th Gds Tank Regt and, possibly, the unidentified Gds RL battalion, all of the 19th Gds Mecz Div. However, the rocket launcher battalion may also be quartered in the Flak Kaserne, but the number of rocket launchers observed in the two installations is too high in view of the fact that the T/E for a rocket launcher battalion of a mechanized division provides for only 10 rocket launchers. Further information is required to clarify this issue.

Hindenburg Kaserne. Elements of the 105th Sig Regt or the unidentified independent signal battalion of the Third Shock Army; the unidentified motor transport battalion of the Third Shock Army, and the 573d (?) Mort Regt of the 19th Gds Mecz Div. The latter regiment is more probably stationed in the Flak Kaserne in Cracau.

Collective Billeting Area of the Nachrichten Kaserne and Seeckt Kaserne. Probably the bulk of the 36th Pon Bridge Regt of the COFG which was previously stationed in Rossau.

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Zuckerbusch Kaserne. An infantry unit which is probably assigned to the komendantura. [] a gasoline supply installation in the billeting area as late as the beginning of October 1951. []

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Flak Kaserne, Cracau. Components of the 3d Gds AAA Div; the 573d (?) Mort Regt of the 19th Gds Mecz Div; an unidentified rocket launcher unit, and, possibly, elements of the 36th Pon Bridge Regt of the GORP.

Encke Kaserne. Headquarters and headquarters units of the Third Shock Army.

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